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Chair: Mr. Logar ..... (Slovenia)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

1. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that an erroneous editorial change had been made to the cross-cutting paragraph on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Consequently, the Secretariat would ensure that all draft resolutions in the reports of the Committee submitted to the General Assembly would correct the editorial change and restore the agreed language.

Agenda item 20: Sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.37)

Draft resolution entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism" (A/C.2/70/L.37)

2. **Mr. Iziraren** (Morocco), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.37, announced that Australia, Chad, Greece, Iraq, Japan, Lebanon, Portugal, Rwanda, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Thailand and Turkmenistan wished to join the sponsors. He said that the draft resolution focused on the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, which presented a framework of principles to guide the work and actions of all stakeholders for the development of the tourism sector, in particular in terms of economic development, social inclusion and environmental protection. The Code reflected a participatory approach, since it encouraged all actors in the tourism sector to maximize the benefits of tourism while minimizing the negative impact on the environment, cultural heritage and society as a whole.

3. Tourism deserved more visibility in the agenda of the United Nations because of its contribution to sustainable development in both developed and developing countries, as well as its role in the economic and cultural outreach of developed countries. In many developing countries, tourism was a major contributor to economic growth and poverty alleviation. It also stimulated infrastructure development and was one of the top five export earners in 150 countries. As the top export sector in 60 countries, tourism was the main source of foreign exchange in a third of developing countries and half of all least developed countries.

4. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Burundi, the Congo, Guinea, Madagascar and Turkey also wished to join the sponsors.

Agenda item 22: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.50)

Draft resolution on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (A/C.2/70/L.50)

5. **Mr. Marobe** (South Africa), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.50.

Agenda item 17: Information and communications technologies for development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.23 and A/C.2/70/L.41)

Draft resolution entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" (A/C.2/70/L.23 and A/C.2/70/L.41)

6. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.41, submitted by Mr. Carrillo Gómez of Paraguay, Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.23. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

7. **Ms. Jurečko** (Slovenia), facilitator, said that the fifteenth preambular paragraph and paragraph 12, which referred to no country being left behind, should be deleted to reflect the discussions on the cross-cutting language. Secondly, paragraphs 13 and 14 should be combined into a single paragraph, again to bring the text into line with the agreed cross-cutting language. Thirdly, the eleventh preambular paragraph should now read: "Taking note of the report of the Commission at its eighteenth session, including a summary of the substantive discussion on the 10-year review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit alongside a link to the interventions made in that regard, and the report prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, entitled "Implementing WSIS outcomes: a Ten-Year Review", which was the basis for the substantive discussion and had been forwarded to the preparatory process for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly as input for its deliberations".

8. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.41, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

9. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.23 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 20: Sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.10/Rev.1)

Draft resolution entitled "Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors" (A/C.2/70/L.10/Rev.1)

10. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.10/Rev.1, submitted by Turkmenistan on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document. He said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

11. **Mr. Eyeberdiyev** (Turkmenistan) said that Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Estonia, the Gambia, Guyana, India, Kenya, Luxembourg, Morocco, Serbia, Seychelles, South Sudan and Sweden had joined as sponsors of the revised draft resolution.

12. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritania, Romania, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe also wished to join as sponsors of the draft resolution.

13. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.10/Rev.1 was adopted.*

Agenda item 20: Sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.30/Rev.1)

Draft resolution entitled "Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America" (A/C.2/70/L.30/Rev.1)

14. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.30/Rev.1, submitted by El Salvador, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document. He said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

15. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico and Uruguay joined as sponsors.

16. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.30/Rev.1 was adopted.*

17. **Mr. Zamora Rivas** (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the States members of the Central American Integration System, said that the draft resolution reflected the important role of sustainable tourism in poverty eradication, protection of the environment and the achievement of a higher quality of life.

18. **Mr. Rahman** (United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)) said that UNWTO appreciated the interest of Central American countries in sustainable tourism and had excellent bilateral cooperation with all of those countries as well as the Central American Integration System. However, the report requested in paragraph 15 of draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.30/Rev.1 concerning the implementation of the draft resolution would be prepared in-house by UNWTO, which would require the Central American countries to provide inputs through their responses to a survey that would be circulated to them.

Agenda item 20: Sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.37)

Draft resolution entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism" (A/C.2/70/L.37)

19. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.37, submitted by Morocco on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document. He said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

20. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Senegal, the Solomon Islands and Tunisia wished to join as sponsors.

21. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.37 was adopted.*

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.31 and A/C.2/70/L.57)

Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/70/L.31 and A/C.2/70/L.57)

22. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57, submitted by Mr. Krapp (Germany), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft

resolution A/C.2/70/L.31. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

23. **Mr. de Azevedo Araujo Filho** (Brazil), facilitator, proposed minor drafting changes.

24. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

25. **Mr. Parenti** (European Union) said that his delegation wished to express some of its procedural and substantive concerns. The delayed submission of the draft resolution had resulted in a hasty and divisive discussion that had prevented a thorough exchange on its objectives. There remained a divergence of views and understanding on the nature of a number of processes emanating from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development traditionally dealt with in Agenda 21 resolutions and subsequently incorporated into the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. That issue had become an integral part of the implementation, follow-up and review of the new transformative 2030 Agenda and would be subject to further discussion in that context. Therefore, the format, organization and arrangements of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, strengthening of the Economic and Social Council and its relationship with the high-level political forum, preparations for the Global Sustainable Development Report, and arrangements concerning the Technology Facilitation Mechanism should not be tackled in a separate Agenda 21 resolution. The Agenda 21 resolution had fulfilled its purpose and helped shape the new 2030 Agenda, and its lifespan in the current forum had come to an end. There was a need for full implementation of the Agenda 21 and "The future we want" documents, but a standalone Agenda 21 resolution would not be the vehicle for achieving that.

26. The preambular part of the draft resolution did not accurately reflect the ideas incorporated into the 2030 Agenda. Largely outdated language was used to describe the challenges faced by developing countries, such as the objectives of poverty eradication, mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development and references to human rights, peace and development. The same applied to the reference to the regional dimension of sustainable development in paragraph 7, which appeared to prioritize regional follow-up and review processes over those at the national and global level, and had the potential to interfere with future work on the modalities of the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review. The 2030 Agenda text had been agreed upon by Heads of State and Government and the draft resolution should remain faithful to its spirit.

27. With regard to paragraph 9, the three dimensions of sustainable development should be further mainstreamed into the United Nations system, but his delegation had concerns about calling for another report by the Secretary-General for the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on top of two extensive reports already mandated by the follow-up and review section of the 2030 Agenda. A separate report on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development should be considered, while taking into account the entirety of the reporting of the 2030 Agenda in its coverage.

28. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.31 was withdrawn.*

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.18 and A/C.2/70/L.43)

Draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" (A/C.2/70/L.18 and A/C.2/70/L.43)

29. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.43, submitted by Mr. Krapp (Germany), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.18. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

30. **Mr. Krapp** (Germany), Vice-Chair, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.43, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.18. He said that the word "parties" should be spelled with an initial capital everywhere it appeared in the draft resolution. In the third line of the third preambular paragraph, the word "any" preceding the word "protocol" should be replaced with the word "the". In the fifth preambular paragraph, the word "Convention" should be replaced with "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change". In the last line of paragraph 4, the word "undertakings" should be changed to the singular. Lastly, he proposed to delete the twelfth preambular paragraph and paragraph 15.

31. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.43, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

32. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.18 was withdrawn.*

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.26 and A/C.2/70/L.52)

Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/70/L.26 and A/C.2/70/L.52)

33. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.52, submitted by Mr. Krapp (Germany), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.26. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

34. **Ms. Jonsdottir** (Iceland) said that the sixteenth preambular paragraph and paragraph 11 should be deleted. She also made three minor drafting changes to paragraph 9.

35. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.52, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

36. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.26 was withdrawn.*

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.39 and A/C.2/70/L.53)

Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development" (A/C.2/70/L.39 and A/C.2/70/L.53)

37. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.53, submitted by Mr. Krapp (Germany), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.39. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

38. **Mr. Landveld** (Suriname), facilitator, said that he was not certain whether the current version of the draft resolution still included the proposed cross-cutting language on inclusiveness. Unfortunately, he wished to note that he would not support such language, since the decision taken had instead been one of exclusion.

39. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) clarified that it had been agreed that the relevant two paragraphs would be removed from the draft resolution.

40. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.53, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

41. **Mr. Singer** (United States of America), speaking also on behalf of Australia and Canada, said that their three delegations had been compelled to express their significant concerns about the Committee's working methods by taking the unprecedented step of not engaging in negotiations in connection with draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.53, which had been introduced well after the original deadline. Their attempts to communicate proactively with a regionally diverse group of delegations had not resulted in any substantive dialogue. Once the current session had begun, the issuance of zero drafts had been delayed repeatedly and many informal negotiating sessions had been cancelled, often with very short notice. That demonstrated a lack of respect for partners, particularly for those colleagues who had travelled to New York from their capitals. The resulting compressed schedule had not allowed enough time for the issues to be discussed properly. Once the deadline had passed, their three delegations had called for the six delayed draft resolutions to be withdrawn until the following session, and they were disappointed that the sponsors thereof had declined to do so. Recognizing that the updates to those draft resolutions were largely procedural, they had nonetheless decided to join the consensus on them. However, if the upcoming discussion on the revitalization of the Committee failed to address their concerns, they would consider other measures to overcome the considerable challenges presented by the Committee's methods of work.

42. **Mr. Parenti** (Observer for the European Union), speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States, said that while the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.53 was an accomplishment, it and most of the other draft resolutions before the Committee had been submitted for consideration by member States two to six weeks after the deadline for submission. Those delays demonstrated the need for the Committee to get its working methods in order. His delegation therefore looked forward to the upcoming discussions on the revitalization of the Committee.

43. **Mr. Cripton** (Canada) expressed concern that draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.53 had been submitted after the deadline, thereby limiting the ability of delegations to engage constructively in its consideration. The working methods of the Committee were in dire need of reform; his delegation therefore looked forward to the upcoming discussions on the revitalization of the Committee. Canada was fully committed to continue hosting the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

44. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.39 was withdrawn.*

(h) United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.20 and A/C.2/70/L.56)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) (A/C.2/70/L.20 and A/C.2/70/L.56)

45. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.56, submitted by Mr. Krapp (Germany), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.20. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

46. **Mr. M. Osman Sid Ahmed Mohammed Ali** (Sudan), facilitator, read out three minor drafting changes to paragraph 5 of the draft resolution.

47. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.56, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

48. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.20 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 22: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

(d) Development cooperation with middle-income countries (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.38 and A/C.2/70/L.55)

Draft resolution on development cooperation with middle-income countries (A/C.2/70/L.38 and A/C.2/70/L.55)

49. The Chair invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.55, submitted by Mr. Carrillo Gómez (Paraguay), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.38. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

50. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.55 was adopted.*

51. **Mr. Morales López** (Colombia), speaking also on behalf of Costa Rica, said that the draft resolution was the satisfactory result of intense negotiations within the Group of 77 and China and with other delegations. Recognizing and supporting middle-income countries would play an important systemic role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There was an urgent need not only to eradicate the high levels of poverty and inequality in middle-income countries but also to effectively confront the structural problems they faced.

52. **Ms. Miyano** (Japan) said that A/C.2/70/L.55 and a number of other draft resolutions had been submitted well past the deadline. Consequently, there had been serious scheduling conflicts as well as insufficient time for consultations with her Government and discussions with partners. Her delegation had nonetheless welcomed and joined the consensus on the draft resolution. However, the Committee needed to reform and improve its working methods. Her delegation was therefore prepared to engage constructively in the discussions on revitalization of the Second Committee.

53. **Ms. Clifford** (Australia), speaking also on behalf of Canada and the United States of America, reiterated the sentiments expressed in their shared statement on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.39. In that regard, she noted that draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.55 was one of the six draft resolutions to have been submitted after the deadline of 25 November 2015.

54. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.38 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 24: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

(c) Human resources development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.16 and A/C.2/70/L.48)

Draft resolution on human resources development (A/C.2/70/L.16 and A/C.2/70/L.48)

55. The Chair invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.48, submitted by Ms. Uwizera (Rwanda), Rapporteur of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.16. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

56. **Mr. Carrillo Gómez** (Paraguay), facilitator, said that the final preambular paragraph and paragraph 28 should be deleted.

57. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.48, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

58. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.16 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 25: Operational activities for development (*continued*)

(b) South-South cooperation for development (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.33 and A/C.2/70/L.54)

Draft resolution on South-South cooperation (A/C.2/70/L.33 and A/C.2/70/L.54)

59. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.54, submitted by Mr. Carrillo Gómez (Paraguay), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.33. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

60. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.54 was adopted.*

61. **Ms. Sloane** (United States of America) said that strong protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights provided critical incentives for innovation that would allow current and future challenges in the areas of health, environment and development to be met. In that respect, her Government understood that references to the transfer of or access to technology referred to voluntary technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, and that all references to access to information and/or knowledge were to information or knowledge that was made available with the authorization of the legitimate holder of the intellectual property rights.

62. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.33 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 26: Agriculture development, food security and nutrition (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.34 and A/C.2/70/L.49)

Draft resolution on agriculture development, food security and nutrition (A/C.2/70/L.34 and A/C.2/70/L.49)

63. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.49, submitted by Mr. Chandra (Indonesia), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.34. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

64. **Ms. del Castillo** (Dominican Republic), facilitator, said that in the twenty-sixth preambular paragraph the word "should" should be replaced with the word "is" and that in paragraph 9, the words "the benefit of" should be inserted after the words "notes that".

65. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.49, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

66. **Mr. Singer** (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the draft resolution and reiterated his country's ongoing support for the broader goal of worldwide food and nutrition security. He noted that his Government did not concur with any reading of draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.49 or related documents that would suggest that States had particular extraterritorial obligations arising from a right to food. While it was the objective of his country to achieve a world where everyone had access to adequate food, he reiterated that it was not a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its joining the consensus did not imply that it recognized any change in the current state of conventional or customary international law regarding rights related to food. Since his country did not treat the right to food as an enforceable obligation, it interpreted the draft resolution's references to the right to food with respect to States parties to that Covenant in light of its article 2, paragraph 1, and references to Member States' obligations regarding the right to food as applicable only to the extent they had assumed such obligations. Furthermore, any reaffirmation of prior documents, positions or rights in the draft resolution applied only to those States that had affirmed them initially.

67. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.34 was withdrawn.*

68. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the main decisions and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security, as contained in document A/70/92-E/2015/82 and A/70/92/Corr.1-E/2015/82/Corr.1.

69. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 27: Towards global partnerships (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.24/Rev.1)

Draft resolution entitled "Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners" (A/C.2/70/L.24/Rev.1)

70. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.24/Rev.1, submitted by Luxembourg on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

71. **Ms. von Steiger Weber** (Switzerland), facilitator, said that, in paragraph 15, the words "requests the Economic and Social Council partnership forum to convene at its current session a discussion" should be replaced by the words "requests the Economic and Social Council to hold during its partnership forum, to be held in 2016, a discussion". The partnership forum was an informal meeting of the Council, therefore the request should be made to the latter rather than to the former. She announced that Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Japan, Lichtenstein, Mexico, San Marino and Turkmenistan had joined the sponsors.

72. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) noted that Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had also joined the sponsors.

73. *Draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.24/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted.*

Agenda item 120: Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (*continued*) (A/C.2/70/L.51)

Draft decision entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly" (A/C.2/70/L.51)

74. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft decision A/C.2/70/L.51, submitted by him in his capacity as Chair of the Committee. The draft decision contained no programme budget implications.

75. *Draft decision A/C.2/70/L.51 was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 4.50 p.m.